

REMARKS

Claims 17-33 are pending in the present application. Claims 17-26 and 28-32 have been amended, claim 27 has been cancelled and claim 33 has been added. Claims 17 and 29 are independent.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

The Examiner has objected to claims 18 - 28 and 30-32 due to minor informalities. Applicants have amended the claims to correct these minor informalities. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. §102 CLAIM REJECTIONS

Claims 17 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by JP 10-312728 to Takahashi. This rejection, insofar as it pertains to the presently pending claims, is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

The Examiner asserts Takahashi anticipates independent claims 17 and 29.

Applicants assert that amended claim 17 recites "*.. returning means...being constituted by at least part of the frame,..*". In Takahashi, the alleged returning means (6) and the frame (1) are separate entities as shown in Fig. 4.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Takahashi fails to teach or suggest a returning means which is constituted by at least part of the frame. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested. Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claims 18-26 and 28 are allowable by virtue of their dependency on allowable independent claim 17, for at least the reasons set forth above.

With respect to independent claim 29, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 29 recites “a first member supported by the frame ...”. As illustrated in the exemplary embodiment of Fig. 2 of the present application, a plastic mounted cylindrical roller 101 is rotably mounted in a supporting frame 102.

In contrast, in Takahashi, the operating member 11 rests in the driving member 7, not the frame 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 29 is allowable for at least this reason.

Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claims 30-33 are allowable by virtue of their dependency on allowable independent claim 29 for at least the reasons set forth above.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the various objections and rejections and allowance of claims 17-33 is respectfully requested.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact John A. Castellano at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any

additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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By



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